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DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTION

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NO. CA-537 May 12, 1954

SUBJECT: Functions of USRO/ST.

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TO: AMSTERDAM, ANKARA, ANTWERP, ATHENS, BANGKOK, BASEL, BEIRUT, BELGRADE, BERLIN, BERN, BRISTOL, BRUSSELS, CAIRO, COLOMBO, DJAKARTA, FRANKFORT, GENEVA, GENOA, THE HAGUE, HAMBURG, HELSINKI, HONG KONG, ISTANBUL, KARACHI, LA PAZ, LISBON, LONDON, LUXEMBOURG, MADRID, MANILA, MEXICO D.F., MILAN, MUNICH, NAPLES, NEW DELHI, OSLO, OTTAWA, PANAMA, PARIS, RANGOON, RIO DE JANEIRO, ROME, SAIGON, SANTIAGO, STOCKHOLM, ROTTERDAM, TAIPEI, TEHRAN, TEL AVIV, TRIESTE (USPOLAD), TOKYO, VIENNA, ZURICH, USRO PARIS.

EXCON

Reference: CA-3024 of December 4, 1953.

The following announcement is being sent the addressed posts in order to clarify further the functions of the combined Economic Defense unit established by the reference circular:

Mr. John A. Loftus has been designated Director, Security Trade Controls, USRO. The functions of this office are:

Represent the United States in negotiations on trade controls with other countries in the informal international group concerned with controls on exports of strategic commodities to the Soviet Bloc and China. To discharge this function, the Director and his staff will, in addition to formal negotiations in the CG, COCOM and CHINGCOM, (a) provide U.S. representation for permanent and ad hoc sub-committees and working groups established within this structure; (b) informally seek support for U.S. views and positions; (c) enlist the help of U.S. Missions in other participating countries to obtain support for U.S. positions, providing assistance and advice to U.S. Missions in those countries when needed and requested.

Establish and maintain liaison between USRO and the U.S. diplomatic missions in Europe with respect to matters of negotiation, intelligence, and enforcement related to the economic defense program in all its aspects; and to provide the chairmanship to the European Regional Economic Defense Panel.

Prepare

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Prepare documentation with respect to the work of the CG and its affiliated committees and sub-committees, to insure adequate dissemination of the documents of these bodies to interested agencies in Washington and to the Economic Defense Panels in U.S. Missions in Europe.

Suggest to U.S. missions in Europe appropriate steps to prevent violations of the Battle Act and evasions of agreed East-West trade controls; and when necessary to assume coordination of action in such matters.

Recommend policy and technical positions to Washington.

Mr. John A. Loftus has also been designated U.S. resident delegate to the Consultative Group.

In connection with this announcement, those having an interest in Economic Defense and East-West trade are advised that the Department of Defense maintains an Economic Defense Officer for Europe, with duty station in OSRO, who reports to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs.

The Department of Defense Economic Defense Officer is responsible for presenting the Department of Defense point of view in the field of economic defense, (1) on the European Regional Economic Defense Panel, (2) to the U.S. representatives on international bodies, in Europe, dealing with economic defense matters, and (3) to Defense representatives in the various European countries, etc.

This officer works closely with the Director, Security Trade Controls, OSRO and for most purposes can be considered a part of his group.

Captain Elliott D. Strauss USN is Department of Defense Economic Defense Officer for Europe.

Attention of posts is invited to paragraph 3 of CA-3024, of 4 December 1953 which deals with communications intended for OSRO/ST.

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